WITH WORDS

BY

RUDYARD KIPLING.

An Almanac of twelve Sports By William Nicholson

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Rudyard Kipling

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1898.

January.

Sunday	2 9 16 23 30
Monday	3 10 17 24 31
Tuesday	4 11 18 25 –
Wednesday	5 12 19 26 –
Thursday	6 13 20 27 –
Friday	7 14 21 28 –
Saturday	1 8 15 22 29 –

February.

Sunday	6 13 20 27
Monday	7 14 21 28
Tuesday	1 8 15 22 –
Wednesday	2 9 16 23 –
Thursday	3 10 17 24 –
Friday	4 11 18 25 –
Saturday	5 12 19 26 –

March.

Sunday	6 13 20 27
Monday	7 14 21 28
Tuesday	1 8 15 22 29
Wednesday	2 9 16 23 30
Thursday	3 10 17 24 31
Friday	4 11 18 25 –
Saturday	5 12 19 26 –

April.

Sunday	3 10 17 24
Monday	4 11 18 25
Tuesday	5 12 19 26
Wednesday	6 13 20 27
Thursday	7 14 21 28
Friday	1 8 15 22 29
Saturday	2 9 16 23 30

May.

Sunday	1 8 15 22 29
Monday	2 9 16 23 30
Tuesday	3 10 17 24 31
Wednesday	4 11 18 25 –
Thursday	5 12 19 26 –
Friday	6 13 20 27 –
Saturday	7 14 21 28 –

June.

Sunday	5 12 19 26
Monday	6 13 20 27
Tuesday	7 14 21 28
Wednesday	1 8 15 22 29
Thursday	2 9 16 23 30
Friday	3 10 17 24 –
Saturday	4 11 18 25 –

Here is a horse to tame –
Here is a gun to handle –
God knows you can enter the game
If you'll only pay for the same,
And the price of the game is a
candle –
One single flickering candle!

—

1898.

July.

Sunday	—	3	10	17	24	31
Monday	—	4	11	18	25	—
Tuesday	—	5	12	19	26	—
Wednesday	—	6	13	20	27	—
Thursday	—	7	14	21	28	—
Friday	—	1	8	15	22	29
Saturday	-	2	9	16	23	30

August.

Sunday	—	7	14	21	28	
Monday	—	1	8	15	22	29
Tuesday	—	2	9	16	23	30
Wednesday	-	3	10	17	24	31
Thursday	-	4	11	18	25	—
Friday	—	5	12	19	26	—
Saturday	-	6	13	20	27	—

September.

Sunday	—	4	11	18	25	
Monday	—	5	12	19	26	
Tuesday	—	6	13	20	27	
Wednesday	-	7	14	21	28	
Thursday	-	1	8	15	22	29
Friday	—	2	9	16	23	30
Saturday	-	3	10	17	24	—

October.

Sunday	—	2	9	16	23	30
Monday	—	3	10	17	24	31
Tuesday	—	4	11	18	25	—
Wednesday	-	5	12	19	26	—
Thursday	—	6	13	20	27	—
Friday	—	7	14	21	28	—
Saturday	-	1	8	15	22	29

November.

Sunday	—	6	13	20	27	
Monday	—	7	14	21	28	
Tuesday	—	1	8	15	22	29
Wednesday		2	9	16	23	30
Thursday	-	3	10	17	24	—
Friday	—	4	11	18	25	—
Saturday	-	5	12	19	26	—

December.

Sunday	—	4	11	18	25	
Monday	—	5	12	19	26	
Tuesday	—	6	13	20	27	
Wednesday	-	7	14	21	28	
Thursday	-	1	8	15	22	29
Friday	—	2	9	16	23	30
Saturday	-	3	10	17	24	31

Hunting.

Certes it is a noble sport
And men have quitted selle and swum for't,
But I am of a meeker sort
And I prefer Surtees in comfort.

Reach down my "Handley Cross" again.
My run, where never danger lurks, is
With Jorrocks and his deathless train—
Pigg, Binjimin and Arterxerxes!

—

January.

Coursing.

Most men harry the world for fun –
Each man seeks it a different way
But "of all daft devils under the sun
A grey'ound's the daftest" said
Jorrocks J.

—

February.

Racing.

The horse is ridden - the jockey rides -
The backers back - the owners own
But ... there are lots of things besides,
And I should leave this play alone.

—

March.

Boating.

The Pope of Rome he could not win
From pleasant meat and pleasant sin
These who, in honour's hope, endure
Lean days and lives enforced pure.
These who, replying not, submit
Unto the curses of the Pit
Which he that rides (O greater shame!)
Flings forth by number not by name---
Could Triple Crown or Jesuit's oath
Do what yon shuffle-stocking doth!

April.

Fishing.

Behold a parable! *A* fished for *B*.
C took her bait; her heart was set on *D*.
Thank Heaven, who cooled your blood
and cramped your wishes,
Men and not Gods torment you, little
fishes.

—

May.

Cricket.

Thank God who made the British Isles
And taught me how to play,
I do not worship crocodiles
Or bow the knee to clay!

Give me a willow wand and I,
With hide and cork and twine,
From century to century
Will gambol round my Shrine.

June.

Archery.

The child of the Nineties considers
with laughter
The maid whom his Sire in the Sixties
ran after,
While careering himself in pursuit
of a girl whom
The Twenties will dub a "last century
heir-loom."

—

July.

Coaching.

The Pious Horse to church may trot.
A maid may work a man's salvation.
Four horses and a girl are not,
However, aids to reformation.

August.

Shooting.

"Peace upon Earth, Goodwill to men!"
So greet we Christmas Day.
Oh Christian load your gun and then,
O Christian, out and slay!

September.

Golf.

Why Golf is Art and Art is Golf
we have not far to seek —
So much depends upon the lie,
so much upon the cleek.

October.

Boxing.

Read here the Moral roundly writ
For him that into battle goes –
Each soul that, hitting hard and hit,
Encounters gross or ghostly foes:–
Prince, blown by many overthrows
Half blind with shame, half choked with dirt
Man cannot tell but Allah knows
How much the other side was hurt!

November.

Skating.

Over the ice she flies
  Perfect and poised and fair—
Stars in my true-love's eyes
  Teach me to do and to dare!

Now will I fly as she flies---
  Woe for the stars that misled!
Stars that I saw in her eyes
Now do I see in my head!

—

December.

Now we must come away.
What are you out of pocket?
'Sorry to spoil your play,
But Somebody says we must pay—
And the candle's down to the
socket—
Its horrible tallowy socket!